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Twenty-Nine Complete Homeland Security Masters Degree Program

Monterey, California : Naval Postgraduate School

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Twenty-Nine complete homeland security master's degree program

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CHDS Staff

September 25, 2018

The September 21 graduation ceremony at the Naval Postgraduate School included 29 homeland security professionals who completed a Master of Arts in Security Studies curriculum at the NPS Center for Homeland Defense and Security.

The graduates comprise professionals from the fields of homeland security, emergency management, law enforcement, the fire service, public health, education, along with city, county and state government (see list).

The first program in the nation of its kind, NPS-CHDS provides a leading-edge, multi-disciplinary curriculum in its 18-month master's degree program in homeland security. Graduates are required to write theses pertinent to their employing agencies.

"These graduates will join a national cadre of cohorts who are helping keep our nation safer," CHDS Director Glen Woodbury said. "We are proud and look forward to their contributions to the homeland security enterprise in the coming years. They reflect the professionalism and dedication our nation deserves."

Three CHDS graduates earned special recognition:

- Outstanding Thesis Award: Greta Hurt, District Fire Chief, Tulsa Fire Department. "It Takes a Village: Integrating Firehouse Hubs to Encourage Cooperation among Police, Fire, and the Public." The award is based on academic rigor and the quality of the literature review, analysis and conclusions as well as writing and overall presentation of the thesis.
- Curtis "Butch" Straub Award: Wayne Dumais, "The DHS Acquisition Workforce: The Threat's not Leaving, Why are you?" The award is presented to the CHDS graduate student with an exemplary academic and citizenship record who has written an outstanding thesis and demonstrated outstanding leadership in the CHDS master's degree program. Presented in honor and memory of one of CHDS' founders, Curtis "Butch" Straub.
- Mark Carr Esprit De Corps Award: Wayne Dumais. Test Area Manager DHS, Science and Technology. The award is named in honor of a former CHDS student who died in August 2014.



NPS-CHDS master's degree cohort 1701/1702 gather on the steps of Hermann Hall. (Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Michael Ehrlich)

Naval Postgraduate School

Center for Homeland Defense and Security

Elizabeth Barkley – Assistant Chief, California Highway Patrol

Raymond Bernier – Deputy Director, Colorado Information Analysis Center

John Breckenridge – Special Agent, US Customs and Border Protection – Office of Professional Responsibility

Alexander Capece – EMS Captain Battalion Supervisor, Washington, D.C. Fire EMS Department

Anthony Carter – Deputy Inspector, New York City Police Department

Marcus Castle – Program Manager, Maricopa County Department of Public Health Office of Preparedness and Response

Jasper Cooke – Deputy Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency National Advisory Council

Jeff Dambly – Assistant General Counsel, Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Michael Day – Agency Emergency Manager, California Department of Corrections, Emergency Planning and Management Unit

Wayne Dumais – Test Area Manager, Department of Homeland Security – Science and Technology Directorate

Kelly Dunn, – Associate Director of Public Safety and Emergency Management, University of Kansas Medical Center

John Haseney – Captain, Fire Department City of New York

Brian Heslin – Assistant Special Agent in Charge, Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement – Homeland Security Investigations

Greta Hurt – District Fire Chief, Tulsa Fire Department

Laura Jamison – Supervisory Intelligence Analyst (SIA), Federal Bureau of Investigation

Kelly Jones – Supervisory Immigration Officer, Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services – Asylum Fraud Detection and National Security

Paul Junger – Major of Police, Dallas Police Department

Douglas Larson – Supervisory Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Jeff Lessard – Major, Infantry (T32 AGR), Rhode Island Army National Guard

Morgan Minor – Supervisory Intelligence Analyst, West Virginia Intelligence Fusion Center

Joseph Murray – Fire Chief, Dearborn Fire Department

Eric Pederson – Division Commander, North Dakota Highway Patrol

Christopher Pedrini – Captain, San Francisco Police Department

Sridhar Srinivasan – Management and Program Analyst, Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services – Verification

Amy Thibault – Intelligence Services Manager, Massachusetts State Police Commonwealth Fusion Center

Aaron Tyerman – Fire Chief, Maple Valley Fire and Life Safety

Scott Van Beek – NORAD USNORTHCOM-Chief, Fighter Inspections Branch, Air Force-ANG

Deborah Witmer – Vulnerable Populations Planning Coordinator, Seattle Human Services Department, Emergency Management Team

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